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M. L.

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MEERS GENEALOGY

L. E. Garretson

1937048

929.2
M47

GARRETSON, Lucretia D.

MEERS genealogy

47505

Genealogical chart and proofs

Rec'd Mar 8 1937

GENEALOGICAL CHART

Iowa Department of History and Archives
Historical Library

Give town or county as well as name of state for each individual.

Chart by
Lucretia E. Garretson
with proofs.

Stylon' ANCIENT WINDSOR, P.493

Gertrude Eunice Meers
BORN 1880 Centerville, Ia.
DIED
RESIDENCE Des Moines, Ia.
MARRIED No

Address: 2315 Grand
Des Moines, Ia.

Thomas Wallace Meers
FATHER
BORN 5-10-1850
DIED 10-8-1934
MARRIED 10-8-1879
RES.

B. New York City, N.Y.
Res. Centerville, Iowa
Ludington, Mich.

Ida Belle Kindig
MOTHER
BORN 5-4-1850
DIED 9-3-1917

B. Centerville, Ia.
D. Ludington, Mich.

Stephen Meers
GRANDFATHER
B. 1802 St. Marys, Ga.
D. 1860 Hong Kong, China
M. 6-28-1829
RES. New York

(1) Jerusha Jermain
(2) Rachel Wallace
GRANDMOTHER
B. 1829 New York
D. 1860 New York

Benjamin Franklin Kindig
GRANDFATHER
B. 12-26-1837
D.
M.
RES.

B. Edinburg, Indiana

Mary Musser
GRANDMOTHER
B. 7-31-1830
D. 1900

Samuel Meers
B. 1727/35 East Windsor, Ct.
D. 1810 St. Marys, Ga.
M. 1795/96
RES.
Tiger Island, Florida

Margarita
B.
D. 1811

D. St. Mary's, Ga.
Spanish Land Grants in Florida-V.4, P. 113

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

Jesse Kindig
B. 1806
D. 1890 Centerville, Ia.
M.
RES.

Margaret Lynn
B.
D.

Michael Musser
B. 3-16-1805
D. 1-30-1883
M. 5-31-1827
RES.
D. Taylorsville, Ind.
M. Bolivar, Ohio

Comfort Cordrey
B. 7-10-1809
D.

Stephen Meers
B. 1727 East Windsor, Ct.
D. 10-19-1789 Richmond, Ga.
M.
RES.

Lois
B.
D. 12-10-1764

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

B.
D.
M.
RES.

B.
D.

ADD ADDITIONAL DATA ON REVERSE SIDE.

PH-1606j

SAVAGE, V.3,P.192
B. & M. in England
Came to Am. in "Abigail" 1635
Ch.: Sam'l, Jno., Stephen, Sam'l,
James

John
James 12-21-

Robert Meers
B. 1592
D. Boston ca 1666/7

James Meers
B. 3-9-1644 Boston
D.10-6-1712 "

Elizabeth Johnson
B. 1602
D. ca 5-4-1674

Edward Mellows
Charlestown,Mass.

Steven Meers
B. 5-15-1690

Sentinal 7-31 to
11-30-1722 Mass.
Archives 91-74

Elizabeth Mellows
B. 3-5-1643/4
Charlestown
(Jacobus)

Hannah Smith

Stephen Meers
B. 1727/29
D. ca 10-1-1789

D. Augusta, Richmond
Co., Georgia
Will dated Wilkes Co.,
Ga.
Ch. b. at East
Windsor, Conn.
P. 4

Ch. of James b.
Boston, Mass.:
James b. 12-21-1668
Elizabeth b. 8-1-1668 bap. Old South Church
Edward b. 3-22-1669
Robert b. 1-29-1671
Hannah b. 1-28-1676 d.y.
Hannah 6-2-1678 d.y.
John b. 5-12-1680
Nathaniel 10-7-1682 d.y.
Nathaniel b. 9-26-1683
Mary bap. 11-29-1688
Stephen 5-15-1690

Lois
B.
D. 12-10-1764
Stiles' ANCIENT
WINDSOR

Old Cem. Rec.
Gay mss., V. 7,P. 112
Conn. Hist.

CITY OF BOSTON. REPORT OF THE RECORD COMMISSIONERS Document 130 1883
BIRTHS, BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS 1630-1699

P. 5 Births & Baptisms
"1637 First Church
Stephen of Elizabeth & Robert Meares 10 day 10 mo."

P. 6
"1638 Town
Stephen of Robert & Elizabeth Meere born 25th day 10th month."

P. 17
"1644 Town
James of Robert & Elizabeth Mers born 9th — 1st."

P. 18
"1644 First Church
James of Elizabeth & Robert Meares, aged about 4 days 31 day 1 mo."

P. 81
"1661 Town
Stephen of Robert and Elizabeth Meeres deceased the 10th of December."

P. 97
"1665 Town
Stephen of Samuel & Mary Meers born Nov. 21."

P. 100
"1666 Town
James of James & Elizabeth Meers born Dec. 21."

P. 108
"1668 Town
Elizabeth of Samuel & Mary Meers born Apr. 9."

P. 111
"1669 Town
Edward of James & Eliza. Meeres born Mar. 22"

P. 119
"1671 Town
Samuel of Samuel & Mary Meers born May 22."

P. 128
"1673 Town
Mary of Samuel & Mary Meers born Nov. 26."

P. 138
"1676 Town
Hannah of James & Elizabeth Meers born Jan. 28."

P. 146
"1678 Town
Hannah of James & Elizabeth Meers born June 2."

P. 152
"1680 Town
John Of James & Elizabeth Meers born May 12."

P. 158
"1682 Town
Nathaniel of James & Eliza. Meeres born Oct. 7"

P. 160
"1683 Town
Nathaniel of James & Elizabeth Meers born Sept. 26."

P. 190
"1690 Town
Stephen of James & Eliza. Mears born May 15."

P. 236
"1697 Town
Samuel Mears & Mariah Gross were married by Mr. Cotton Mather Dec. 7"

P. 241
"1698 Town
Mary of Samuel & Mary Mears born Sept. 12."

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE GEORGIA CHAPTERS DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, Vol. 2 1929

pp. 11-12

"MEERS, STEPHEN--Book "A"---Page 65---Merchant of Augusta. To Mrs. Anne Wilkinson, widow for the great esteem I have for her and the trouble I have given her in my last illness 500 pounds, and one black satin sack and petticoat which were my late wife's. To Miss Sarah Wilkinson, dau. of said Anne, a suit of Lelock lutestring which was my wife's. Grandson Stephen Meers, son of Solomon to be educated. Residue to be divided between my two sons, Solomon and Samuel. Son Samuel, Exor. Signed Sept. 9, 1789. Probated Oct. 2, 1789 in Wilkes Co. Wit: Emanuel Wambersie, Anthony Poullains, Florence Sullivan, Esq. Wm. Barry, Gentleman Amasa Jackson qualified as Administrator."

DAILY NEWS Sudington, Michigan Oct. 9, 1934

"THOMAS W. MEERS, CIVIL WAR SAILOR, ANSWERS TO TAPS.
Michigan's Youngest Union Veteran Dies after Long Illness

Michigan's youngest Civil war veteran, Thomas W. Meers, 84, died at Paulina Stearns hospital late Monday afternoon after a long illness.

In poor health for several years, Mr. Meers, who made his home with his daughter Miss Louise C. Meers of 603 West Ludington avenue, was taken to the hospital last week in hopes that the constant expert attention there would result beneficially. Early in the summer Mr. Meers, during a critical illness, had been a patient at the hospital and at that time he rallied and for a while he was apparently improving.

Mr. Meers had had an interesting career. The grandson of Samuel Meers, who served in the Revolutionary war, and a son of Stephen Meers, United States consul to Hong Kong, China, he was born May 10, 1850. He ran away from home to enlist in the United States navy at the age of 14 after getting a man to swear himself his guardian. Claiming he was 16, the boy served as a first class messenger on the receiving ship North Carolina, then on the Vermont and finally on the fast brigrigged Magnolia on which he served during remainder of the war and which played such an important part, under Farragut, in crushing the Confederate power on the sea and blockading the southern base at Mobile, Ala."

By Eunice Meers
2315 Grand Ave. Des Moines, Ia

Land Grants to Samuel Meers
(This material is found in Spanish Lands Grants in Florida, 1V:113)
New York Public Library and Iowa State Historical Library)

"Mr. Samuel Meers, resident of the State of Georgia of the United States, now in this city, appears before you and respectively states that he is determined to establish himself together with his family and property in this Province under the Spanish laws, and in order to so do, if you think best to grant him a licence for the use of two hundred acres of ground in the place known as the Island of Tygre on the north side of the Santa Maria river. This favor he hopes to receive from you "

St. Augustine, Fla., March 16, 1799
(Signed) Samuel Meers

Report of the Commander Engineer in regard to the land solicited.
(Signed)
White

St. Augustine, Fla., March 16, 1799

" Senor Governor:-
The cultivation of the lands included in the Isle of Tygre will not result prejudiciously to the protection of the Province, but rather be beneficial to the general condition of the same. If you think best to grant to the petitioner his establishment in said Island, it appears to me that it should be conditioned as follows:
That he shall not construct any buildings whatever which shall not be of soft or plain wood, and then in case the Government should by any reason order the inhabitants of the Island to quit the same, he shall have noright to make the claim upon the Government for any losses which he may sustain.
This is all I can report, you being at liberty to determine upon what you think best.

St. Augustine, March 16, 1799
(Signed)
Pedro Diaz Berrio

47506

St. Augustine, March 16, 1799

"The lands requested are granted to the party, until, in accordance with the number of persons there may be to cultivate the same, the amount of land corresponding to them may be designated, but it is understood that if it shall happen that the Government should fear an invasion, or should by any reason order him to retire to the interior of the Island, he shall have no right to claim from this Government any damages whatever whivh may be sustained by him, neither shall he construct any buildings except of soft or plain wood.

White

Certified: Pierra

1801

"Senor Governor:

I, Samuel Meers, a settler and resident of the Island of Tygre respectfully appear before you and state: I have just received two hundred head of cattle which are already on the south side of the Santa Maria river, with the object of establishing a ranch, and extending it as much as possible; but owing to the fact that on said Island of Tigre which you have granted me, there is not sufficient and suitable pasture for feeding such cattle, I request you give me five hundred acres of land in the place known as the upper extreme of the Wharf of Roses on the southeast side of the Cano de Bailey, for said purpose, all in the same manner as such concessions are usually made to settlers.

St. Augustine, Florida, June 30, 1799

(Signed) Samuel Meers

St. Augustine, June 30, 1799

Report of Engineer Commander

White

Senor Governor:--In the lands of Santa Maria river there is a place called "El Repecho de Rozy" which is situated almost opposite to the village which the Americans have on the margin of the river on the other side, and it may be that this place which the petitioner asks you to grant him the five hundred acres of land on which to establish a ranch, and the establishment of such a ranch in such Repecho, or in any other portion of the land of Santa Maria, would not result prejudiciously to the protection of the Province, but on the other hand, it would prove beneficial to the same; and you can give the petitioner the lands required upon the same conditions made to other residents. This is what I have to report to you in accordance with your previous orders.

St. Augustine, July 1, 1799

(Signed) Pedro Diaz Perrio

St. Augustine, July 1, 1801
The land which is requested is granted to said party for the purpose set forth but upon the express conditions that he shall reside in the Province; and also that he shall not make any claim in case the Government should order the inhabitants to retire from the Santa Maria to the Southern part of the San Juan river.

Pierra

Certified: White

Dona Margarita Meers, widow of the late Samuel Meers, resident of the Island of Tygre in this Province, appears before you and states that,---

WHEREAS enclosed certificates set forth two hundred acres of land on the said Island of Tygre were given to my deceased husband, on which land has been cultivated and improved by the erection of buildings, fences, and the setting out of fruit trees, thus complying with the conditions upon which lands are granted to settlers, which mak makes her entitled to the property and absolute dominion of said lands, and I therefore beg of you that you will admit the report of witnesses which shall be presented to prove what is set forth and that you issue the corresponding title to said lands.

Fernandina de Amalia, June 6, 1811
(Signed) Margarita Meers

The accompanying document being presented, the information proposed is admitted. The Witness to be sworn and make the statement called for, their examinations to be submitted to a Notary here present, he certifying previously to theconditions upon which the lands are granted by his Government.

(Signed) Estrada

Decreed by Juan de Estrada, Lieutenant Colonel of the Army and Commander of the Third Battalion of Cuba protecting this Fortress, Political and Military Governor of the same and the Province.
Signed February 5, 1811 Jose de Zubuzarretta
Senor de Governor

In St. Augustine on the same day, month and year, the preceding decree was made known to Dona Margarita Meers.
(Signed) Zubuzarritta
Senor de Governor

I hereby certify that the conditions referred to by the aforesaid decree are

Firstly:- that the petitioner, her heirs ans successors, must within two years counting from the date in which the title is given, build on the land one house with its chimney, corresponding with their means and family;

Secondly:-That it shall be their or her duty to keep the land clean and in good condition, and also that within a period of three years, she, or they must have at least five head of cattle for every fifty acres of land; also, that in case the Government should need any part of the same for fortification purposes or public works, she or they must give it up in exchange for some other vacant part which they may use or otherwise they shall be paid a value to be determined by regular appraisement; and

Finally:-although the donation or cession is made forever, the receiver of the same, her heirs, or successors, cannot transfer the property for any other lands until the expiration of a period of ten years' possession is passed, and even then the first sale should be made with the permission of the Government, otherwise, it will be of no effect; which conditions are here set forth and titles given which the Governor has issued to several settlers after having received the royal orders in regard to the concessions of lands.

In accordance with my orders I have signed this document in St. Augustine, Florida, September 5, 1811.

(Signed) Jose de Zubierretta
Senor de Governor

St. Auguatine, Fla., October 12, 1811

I, Mrs. Margarita Meers, in accordance with my offer, present as witness Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo resident merchant of this city, married, from whom I, Notary Public making use of the commission conferred upon me, received his oath in the name of God and the Holy Cross to tell the truth and the whole truth regarding the before mentioned document, who states that he has known for years the Island of Tygre which he has visited several occasions both while Mr. Samuel Meers was living and after his death when said Island passed to the possession of his widow, Margarita; that he has always found the island in good condition, and has noticed that beisde the house in which they lived, they have another in which to store their crops, and also a kitchen, chicken yard, fences, and also that the land has been well cultivated, and that they have thus complied with the conditions under which lands are granted settlers by this Government. He also states that what he says is the truth in accordance with oath given. He is forty-five years old.

(Signed) Fernando de la Maza Arrendo

Autemi Jose de Zubuzarretta, Senor de Governor

In the City of St. Augustine, Florida, the same day and month and year, I Mrs. Margaret Meers, in order to substantiate my statement present as witnesses Don Bartolome de Castro Y Farrar, resident merchant of this city, married, who upon oath after reading the before mentioned document, states regarding same that on account of having been on many occasions on the Isla of Amalia which is located very near to the Island of Tygre in which Mrs. Meers and family live, he knows that since the Island was granted to her late husband Mr. Samuel Meers, it has been in very good condition, and is now well farmed by his widow who has built the necessary dwelling houses and buildings in which to keep the crops, kitchen, chicken yard, and other houses in which to keep poultry, and, finally, that he observed that she has carried out the conditions established under which lands are granted to settlers. The witness affirms that what he says is the truth in accordance with the oath given, that he is 59 years of age, and having read the aforesaid declaration, he signs the same.

(Signed) Bartolome de Castro y Farrar

Before me, Jose de Zubuzarretta, Senor de Governor

In consideration of the information received and documents presented which sufficiently prove that Dona Margarita Meers, widow of the late Samuel Meers, have possessed and cultivated for over ten yearsthe land granted to them, thus complying with conditions established by this Government in regard to settlers, I order the Notary to draw and to give Dona Margarita Meers and her children, the necessary title to the property in usual form and terms, they paying the corresponding fees and expenses of these proceedings.

(Signed) Estrada

Decreed by Senor Juan de Estrada, Lieutenant Colonel and Commander of the Army Third Battalion of Cuba protecting this Fortress, Political and Military Governor of the same and the Province.

Signed, October 17, 1811

--- ----------

U.S.Sur.Gen.Office
Tallahassee, Fla.
Sept. 23, 1892

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the Spanish Archives now on file in this office.

(Signed) John C. Slocum
U.S.Sur. Gen. of Florida

SAMUEL MEERS

Son of Stephen and Lois Mears (Meers)
Born at East Windsor (?) .....Spring of 1757 ?
Died.....1811
Married at..... time 1795-96 (?) Not married in 1794 as also wife was a minor
to Margarita..... born.....;

Children (Order of births not definite

Jane - 1797 (?)
Phebe
Samuel, born 1798; died unmarried at Charleston 1865 at age of 67
Stephen, born at Saint Marys, Georgia, 1802; died in Hong Kong, China 1860; Married--1st. Jerusha Jermain; 2nd, Rachel Wallace.

References
Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army ..Heitman
Stiles Ancient Windsor, vol.1, p.633
Connecticut in the Revolution, pp. 9,59,60
Conn. Archives
Family Records of Mrs. F.E. Winslow (Greatgranddaughter)
Gazette, State of Georgia
Records of Spanish Land Grants in N.Y.Public Library

Revolutionary Record

Samuel Mears was a member of the "Wapping Parish", East Windsor, Conn. Train Band, and a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Mears, Samuel (Conn.). Private in the Lexington Alarm, April 1775. Private in the 4th Connecticut, 23rd May to 20th Dec.1775; Sergt. of Webbs' Additional Continental Regt., 22nd April 1777; Ensign 16th May, 1778; 2nd Lieut., 15th March 1779; Resigned 20th Nov., 1780. (Hist. Register of Officers of the Continental Army, Heitman)

Samuel Mears marched with "Wapping Parrish, "Train Band from East Windsor, Conn. for the relief of Boston in the Lexington Alarm, April 1775. Days in Service, 6. (Stiles Ancient Windsor, Conn. vol.1, p. 633)

Samuel Mears, private, proceeded forward with other men after the company returned back. Days in service 3. (Ibid.)

Continued on next page

Revolutionary Record of Samuel Meers

Revolutionary soldiers from the town of East Windsor, Conn; Samuel Mears. Days in service 6. (Conn. in the Revolution,p.9)

Records of the 4th Regt., Col. Himan, 2nd Company (This company served at the siege of Boston) : Samuel Mears, Enlisted May 23; discharged, Dec.20,1775 (Ibid.,pp.59-60)

Col. Samuel B.Webb's regiment, 1777-1781, was one of sixteen additional regiments raised at large for the Continental line of 1777, to continue through the War. It was in camp at Peekskill in the spring of 1777, also under Gov. Clinton of New York for some time. Also with Parson's Brigade at West Point, and in the summer of 1778 attached to Varnum's Brigade. In the fall of 1779 it went to Morristown, N.J.

Samuel Mears was appointed Sergent, April 22, 1777; Ensign, May 16, 1778; and Lieut., March 15, 1779. He resigned March 24, 1780. (Ibid,p.246)

A return of Officers and Privates of the 1st. Cap. Co. (Fourth Company Capt. Bulkley) Col. S.B. Webb's Regt., engaged for three years, or during the War, the time of their service, pay due, etc., from Jan.1st 1780 to Jan.1st,1781.

Edward Bulkley, Capt Commencement of service, Jan.1,1780
Samuel Mears, Lieut. " " " " "

Expiration of service	Town engaged for
1st Jan.1781	Wethersfield
20 Nov.,1780	Hartford

Garrison, West point, Nov. 17, 1780, Samuel Mears, Lieut. (Conn. Hist. Soc. Colls. vol. XII,p.248)

Captain Samuel Spenser's commission as captain of the schooner "Weasel" is dated Jan. 13, 1782. His lieutenant was Samuel Mears. (Maritime Connecticut during the Revolution, Vol.2,p.242)

Revolutionary War records of Samuel Mears extracted from Conn. Archives
Revolutionary War...Series 1. Extract from index.

Mears, Samuel (A) receipt for Stephen Mears. XVII,422
" " ens., allowed depreciation of wages, 1780,xvii,
" " Lieut. " " " " " xxx:3q
" " Private East Windsor, Lexington Alarm 1775.11b1
" " " Service, 1775.11c:23aegik,XI:445
Mears, Samuel (A), ens.indorsement of muster roll. Drake Col. 23-24b
" " " member of court martial,1780. Webb1:110,11:2
" " " Officer of the day, 1780 Webb 1:95,98,102 11:101
" " lieut. account of money received,1778-80 Rev. ser 2 11:126

Next page

Samuel Mears ---Revolutionary Service

Samuel Mears		lieut.	clothing account, 1780...Rev. ser 2, 1V:26a
"	"	"	Hartford,service 1780 ..Rev. ser 2, 11:4
"	"	"	Officer od the day,1780, S.B. Webb 111:5,8,19, 59,45,83,87,152,170,175,181,188,209,222,223
"	"	"	Service and resignation,1780 Rev. ser. 11:13
"	"	"	State rations,1780, Rev. 2,V1:60
"	"	"	Supplied, 1780 Rev. ser. 2, V1:60

Other records

Samuel Meers granted 575 acres of land by the state of Georgia, 1786. (Records at St. Marys, georgia)

Samuel Meers ceded 213 acres on Tiger Island by Governor Estrada in 1790; royal patent issuing thereon in October 1811; claim confirmed on April 15, 1825. (Records of the state of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.) This grant is on record in Washington, D.C., General Land Office, in the name of"Samuel Meers and his Heirs forever" It is also located in the records of Fernandino Florida, where Tiger Island is located in the mouth of St. Marys River.

Samuel Meers, according to records of St. Marys, Georgia, was a wealthy merchant. Went into partnership with a David Garron. Business failed; assignment was made in 1808, to Patrick Mais (?) and Company, Charlestown, S.C. Assignment lists "6 lots in the town of St. Marys, 575 acres of land granted by the state of Georgia to Samuel Meers in 1786, 22 head of cattle, slaves, boats, horses, merchandise, etc. When he died in 1810, his widow applied for "Queen's Patent" on Tiger Island in 1811.

Samuel Meers applied for 500 acres of land on the Florida side of the river. Grant on record in old Spanish---Land called "Canon de Roses (Now Rose Bluff near Fernandino)----Margaretta (Margarita) Meers called "doner" in the grant.

Samuel Meers

575 acres, Camden County, Georgia, bounded north Alex Bessett; east and west, vacant; south, S.William Jameson, lot 1075..... Warrant, October 10,1785.

Leconte list Bounty surveys
Lamar's "Roster of the Revolution, Georgia", p.219

Warrant dated November 6 and surveyed November 9, 1786, on the Great Stilla River---part pine land, part tide on the creek.

Book of Land Grants

(No reference to his cultivating the land. He probably gave it up when he failed in business to help pay debts. It must have been of great value, since he had "headrights."

Was an Indian trader to the Cherokees in 1790-91. Subscribed to a fund to build what is now the Presbyterian Church in St. Marys, in April 1807. It was first a Union Church.

"Patrick Mair and David McCurdie of the City of Charlestown, merchants and assignees to David Garvin and Samuel Meers, merchants of the town of St. Marys trading under the former name of Garvin and Company, both residing in the Province of East Florida, do appoint Samuel Meers of East Florida and Robert McFarlone and John Ross of St. Marys our true and lawful attorneys." 1807

Jane Meers claimed, through Belton Taft, 200 acres on Tiger Island in Duval County, ceded to her father Samuel Meers by Governor White. Royal title, however, was granted to her mother Margarita Meers, October 10, 1811.

Geo. S.

SOLOMON MEERS, brother of Samuel Meers, probably went to Georgia after death of his father Stephen in 1789. He always wrote his name as "Solomon Meers of Hartford, Connecticut." In New Haven, he married Sarah Daggett, daughter of Naptahli Daggett, who was president of Yale during Revolution. They were married in 1782, June 22. He was sheriff of Camden County, Georgia, 1802-1804. He died in 1810 at age of fifty. His wife, daughter Sally King, and her two daughters, and his son Stephen who is mentioned in his Grandfather Stephen's will, are all buried in St. Marys, having died of yellow fever about 1808.

house 2 miles Savannah. from tavern, 1810 small Rebecca Emeline died after he did.

Solomon also fought in the Revolution and was a charter member of the Cincinnati Society of Connecticut.

"Lieutenant Solomon Meers admitted to Cincinnati Society, Conn. Sept. 12, 1786."

10 2

Solomon Meers, brother of Samuel Meers.

Columbian Museum and Advertiser, June 25, 1803
"Married in St. Marys, Ga., Mr. Thomas King, Merchant, and Miss Sally Meers of Hartford, Connecticut."

Columbian and Savannnah Advertiser, October 14, 1808
List of those who recently died of yellow fever in St. Marys, Ga.
Mrs. King (Sally Meers) and her child. Buried in same grave Sept. 30, 1808.
A child of Meers
Mrs. Meers (Sarah Daggett Meers, wife of Solomon) Oct 4.
Mr. Meers, a young man, October 4 (Gravestone shows this was Sally Meers King's brother, the boy to whom Stephen Meers who died in 1789 left money for education.) The only other child of Solomon left went back to Connecticut, graduated from Yale, studied medicine for many years. ~~Went West later and died there somewhere.~~ Died at Morgantuck, Conn. May 4, 1877. Married twice - Mrs. Julia B. Meeker, Susan Patterson.

Sarah Meers Hartford 1794

Consecrated

" To the memory of Sarah King, wife of Thomas King Junior
Aged 25 years
Also their Infant Daughter Catherine, aged 2 years
Both of whom departed this life September 30th, 1808.
Also their first Infant Daughter who departed this life September the 21st 1804.
Her affection as a wife, her talents and tenderness as a Mother, her inflexible sincerity as a friend, her kindness and benevolence as a neighbor combined with an agreeable affability and amiableness of disposition rendered her a truly valuable member of society.
She with her second infant, her much esteemed Mother Sarah Meers and her brother Stephen Meers, victims of the same specie of prevailing destructive Fever were all buried to those their adjoining Graves within a few days of each other. "

Letters from Fannie Garrison, daughter of Stephen Meers, to her brother, Thomas Wallace Meers

Sept. 17, 1891

"Mr. John Rudolph, postmaster of St. Marys with whom I have been corresponding for about a year...I am indebted to him for information I have received in reference to this property, that I have lately secured patent on. Stephen (brother of Thomas and Fannie) had in his possession some old letters written by Uncle Samuel(brother of Stephen born in 1802) to my Father in 1847 in which he mentioned wanting to sell some property named Tiger Island, situated in Florida. Margaret (sister of Thomas, Fannie, Mary, and Stephen--all children of Stephen, son of Samuel who was given grant of land on Tiger Island) told me that Father had been heard to say that he would never sell the place, so I came to the conclusion that it must still belong to our family. I wrote to the postmaster of St. Marys, Ga., father's birthplace, for information. He replied that the Island belonged to Florida and was situated about five miles from St. Marys, and a Samuel A. Swann claimed the best portion of it; also that he had always doubted his title. He thought that the old Grant would be found in Washington, D.C. I wrote to the General Land Office in Washington if such grant was on record and they answered that it was and had never been patented So I immediately called up the claim and authorized those offices to issue patent on it for the heirs of Samuel Meers....it is our birthright ....This spring Mr. Swann commenced a suit against the heirs of Samuel Meers to quiet his claim but he had no idea we could get a patent."

"This patent was sent from the Land Office, Washington to the U.S. land office, Gainesville, to be posted on record and to get the patent from Gainesville. I had to give evidence that I was one of the lawful heirs of Samuel Meers. My affadavit was taken before a notary public, sent to Gainesville and they forwarded the patent. (The record of that patent should be proof that Stephen was the son of Samuel.)

Sept. 20, 1893

....."I did think when you were a little mom, there never was such a smart young one born.....I will never forget the day the dog bit you. We lived on Staaten Island. Father was building a vessel in that shipyard and all his men turned out and hunted the dog to his death."

Letter from Mary M. Smith, daughter of Mary Smith, sister of Thomas Meers,

Whitestone, Sept. 18,1891
"Dear Uncle Tom:

..... Within the last few months Aunt Fannie has been investigating some family affairs that should have been looked after long ago. The results .. have proved very satisfactory, so far, and now.....Your grandfather was a wealthy merchant in St. Marys but he entered into partnership with a David Garron and soon after made an assignment. It was in this same city that your father was born. You have heard sometimes the family speak of "Tiger Island", for they all had a vague idea that it was owned by your father. Aunt Fannie has found out by writing to the postmaster at St. Marys that no mention was made of these islands----it seems there are four---in the assignment. Your father's guardian had the grant confirmed in 1827.....By writing to the Land Commissioner of Washington, she has obtained a Patent Certificate granted to the "Heirs of Samuel Meers." The government has had the land surveyed and they have sent Aunt Fan a map and the field notes. The Patent she has sent to Fernandino to be recorded. The Commissioner at Washington sent the certificate to the General Land Office of Florida at Gainesville to be recorded there before she received it. I enclose a copy of the map for you and one for Uncle Sam.....At present they (the islands) are claimed by a man named Swan who bought them from a squatter. Hearing that inquiries were being made in reference to the land, he came on to New York to see about it. .....called on Aunt Fannie. He had no idea that she could get a patent and last spring entered a suit in the Fernandino court against the "Heirs of Samuel Meers" to perfect his claim. But as none of these heirs were notified of the suit, and as the President has given the patent since the suit was incourt, we think it cannot hold. It is only lately that we knew that this had been done."

Letter from Mrs. Grace Winslow, Oct. 9, 1944

"We have no record where Samuel Meers was married or when. Grandfather's brother Samuel was born in 1798 as he died in Charleston in 1867 aged 65 years".

"Grandfather's seaman's certificate reads that he was born in 1802 in St Marys. Samuel petitioned for the grant of land on Tiger Island in 1790. He was married by that time but for how long we don't know. It has always been a legend in the family that she was Spanish and a Roman Catholic but to our knowledge none of the children were. We know of the two girls, Jane and Phebe but there may have been others. We have an idea that Jane was the oldest for when her father died she petitioned to have Tiger Island granted to her but it was given to her mother Margaret Meers.

"Samuel was dead on the 8th of August 1811 as his widow Margaret petitioned to have the title granted to her on that date. He was probably 53 or 54 years old at that time. His brother Solomon died near Savannah October 6, 1810, age 50.

"The earliest record we have of Samuel in Georgia was 1785 when he obtained a grant of 575 acres of land on the Satella river near St. Marys....He was keeping a store in Savannah at the time."

January 14, 1945

"As far as I know your grandmother,Rachel Wallace, was one of several children whose parents died when they were very young..... She and all of them from what Mother said were very goodlooking. Rachel had an abundance of red beautiful red hair. Did any of you girls inherit it ? The family that took Rachel, the man being a Yale College professor...they lived in Connecticut...nearly killed her by making her study day and night to make her a child wonder. ....She ran away to another family....Coe, in Litchfield, Conn. ... Very happy there....Came back to New York to live with an older sister .....Your father was named after her youngest brother. Mother named her only son Percy Wallace Smith....Health undermined by work and study when a child and then having children so fast (Five in six or seven years) she died."

"I never knew whether I could have cared for Grandfather (Stephen Meers, my father's father) Mother adored him. To him he was a God on earth and Aunt Margaret the oldest daughter was just like her."

"Mother was only six when her mother died and she was very fond of her stepmother (Rachel Wallace Meers).....After Grandfather went to China, Rachel took Mother and Uncle Tom (my father) and Sam...the other children had died.....and went to visit the Coes in Conn. Mother never wearied telling what a wonderful place it was.....Rachel died soon after they reached home."

"Grandfather learned the ship carpenter's trade in Charleston and so did his brother Samuel. .....Grandfather went to sea when he was 14... Jane lived with a Mrs. Miller in St. Marys...Mrs. Miller had been a

Miss Margaret Bouner.....The Belton Taft who tried to get Tiger Island for Jane also tried to get some land on Fernandino Island from a man named Garvin.....Aunt Margaret said Grandfather said she (Great-grandmother Margarita) was Spanish and the records of the family were in St. Augustine, but when I wrote there they told me they had been transferred to Tallahassee and they said they had no records of Meers."

Letter from Mary (Meers) Smith, sister of Thomas Wallace Meers and daughter of Stephen Meers

April 28, 1898

"We are all alive and well so far as I know except James Meers. He died one year ago last December. His family live in Bayonne, N.J. He left 8 children and 14 grandchildren. They are all doing very well indeed."".....Now about the Florida case, I do not know much..... Fanny (Fanny Garrison, sister of Mary) was there on the island. She was in Fernandino. The island is just opposite. She went across in a row boat. It seems that father's family were once wealthy and owned a deal of land but trouble came and they lost it. Fannie even found the grave of one of grandfather's sisters. I will tell you one thing that your children and my children have nothing to be ashamed of in their Grandfather Meers for they come of as good stock as there is in the country. I have a copy of the original grant...translated from the Spanish.....Phebe is living not far from here....talks of you and Sam a great deal.....When Fannie went to Florida she went to St. Marys where Father was born....to the graveyard to see if she could find any of the graves of our ancestors. She had a copy of what was on the stone made for her. I will send it to you."

Nov. 27, 1892

"Well, we have not recovered Tiger Island yet. It will take some money to get it.....we have the patent and we sent for a copy of the Old Grant. It cost us five dollars and when it came it was all in Old Spanish . We have had it translated. It seems that Grandfather applied for 500 acres more land than was on Tiger Island for he had 200 head of cattle then and as he wanted more he had not enough pasture for them. The place was known as Canon de Roses.....On the grant our Grandmother was called doner Margaretta Meers. She had the land confirmed after Grandfather died. .....Phebe has moved from Whitestone ...she lives on City Island....five miles from here.....he is Hell Gate Pilot and has to be near his work."

Some of the property assigned by Grandfather Meers

One negro woman named Eva...200 dollars
One gray gelding..... 150 dol.
One mule..... 85 "
200 head of cattle.... .. 1241 "
One mahogony canoe..... 15 dol.
Hogs, pigs..... 50 "
Dry goods remaining in stock..150 "
One negro woman named Mary..300 "
Negro man
One gray gelding ..... 50 "
One yawl boat..... 18 "
One riding chair..... 25 "
One small canoe..... 20 "
One man's saddle.....
Sundry household and kitchen
furniture..... 80 "
Book credits..... 1925 "
Notes..... ..... 1051 "
2 small canoes..... 20 "
One yawl boat..... 25 "
Household furniture..... 68 "

Assigned to Patrick Maris & Co.
of Charlestown, S.C.

6 lots in town of St. Marys
575 acres granted to Samuel Meers by the State of Georgia in 1876; surveyed for Samuel Meers 1808

Total amount of debts owed.....31485

STEPHEN MEERS ...1802-1859

Born in St. Marys, Georgia, son of Samuel and Margarita Meers. Died in Hong Kong, China, in 1860. Estate administered in Whampoa, China, in 1860. He was buried in the English cemetery in Hong Kong, China.

Married

1st. Jerusha Jermain, of New York City, January 29, 1827
Born in 1809 and died in New York City July 15, 1848.
Buried in New York City. She was the daughter of John and Fanna (Jennings) Jermain of Southold, Long Island and grand-daughter of Jonathan Sherrill Jennings and Mary Hart (born Nov. 3, 1790)

Children born in New York City

Margaret Jerusha, 1828
Married James Clark

James, 1835-1897
Married Kate Hamilton, left eight children and 14 grandchildren

Richard (Died in infancy)

Frances Jane Died Sept. 1903
Married -1st, James Hall; 2nd, ...Walker; 3rd, Ferdinand Garrison

Stephen
Married Eliza Burr

Mary Elizabeth, 1843---1935
Married John Morrell Smith

Phebe Ann
Married Giles Fowler

Emma Lucretia (Died Young)

2nd marriage

Rachel Wallace, New York City, August 28, 1849
Died in New York, 1861

Children of second marriage all born in New York City

Thomas Wallace, May 10, 1850--
Married-in Centerville, Iowa, October 8, 1879 to Ida Belle Kindig, daughter of Benjamin Franklin and Mary Musser Kindig.
Died October 8, 1934.

Samuel (died in infancy)

Samuel 1852

Lavinia 1857

Gertrude (Eunice) 1855

Thomas Wallace Meers
Born in New York City, May 10, 1850
Died in Ludington, Michigan, October 8, 1934
Buried in Ludington
Married Ida Belle Kindig, daughter of Benjamin Franklin and Mary (Musser) Kindig, October 8, 1879, at Centerville, Iowa. She was born in Centerville, Iowa, May 4, 1860, and died in Ludington Michigan, September 3, 1917. She is buried in Centerville, Iowa.

Children

Gertrude Eunice...born in Centerville, Iowa, July 26, 1880
Mary Edith..... born in Centerville, August 27, 1883. Married Isaac Beers Rohrer of Council Bluffs, Iowa. Living in Council Bluffs
Carrie Margaret...born , April 7, 1886. Married Ormal C.Zook Died Dec. 15, 1933 in Ludington, Michigan.
Clara Louise .. born, March 23, 1888....Living in Winter Haven, Florida
Samuel Farragut...born June 3, 1891. Married Margaret Drach in 1918 in Ludington, Michigan Margaret died in 1946, Dec. 27.

Thomas Wallace Meers ran away from boys' school and joined navy in 1864 and served with Admiral Farragut . Later he and his brother Samuel came west and settled in Iowa, Thomas in Centerville and Samuel in Burlington. Later the Thomas Meers family went to Michigan.

The Michigan family now consists of Samuel Farragut, his daughter Dorothy Jane whosehusband, Major Harold Hansen, is serving in Japan and her two small sons, Thomas Meers Hansen, born July 2, 1947, and Timothy Drach Hansen, born September 26, 1950.

A daughter of Carrie Margaret Zook, Noel Eunice Hodges, also lives in Ludington with her husband Richard Hodges, and two children. Kay and Jane, four and one.

Navy certificate 5294

ROBERT MEARES, 1592 (?)----1666-7
Married Elizabeth Johnson
Children
Steven, born in England, died after coming to America
Samuel born in England, 1629-32..Died shortly after coming to America
John, born in England, March 1635...Married Mary (Mercy)
Steven, born in Boston, baptized Dec.31, ; died unmarried Dec.10,1661
Samuel, born June 7, 1641; married Mary Stace (Stacy)
James, born March 9, 1644; married Elizabeth Mellows

JAMES MEARES, March 9,1644-Oct.6,1712
Children:
James, born Dec.21,1668
Elizabeth Aug.1,1668-Feb.17,1694-5
Robert, Jan.29,1671-Dec.15,1722
Hannah, Jan. 28,1680; died soon after
Hannah, June 2,1678 Probably died young
John, 1680, May 12
Nathaniel, Oct.7,1680 Died young
Nathaniel, Sept 6, 1683 -
Mary, baptized Nov.29, 1688
Stephen, May 15, 1690

STEVEN MEARS, 1690
Children
Steven born about 1729-33
?
?

STEVEN MEARS 1729-33--Oct.1, 1789
Married Lois ....
Children born at East Windsor, Conn.
Samuel, Aug. 1755-Sept.10,1755
Samuel, 1757-1811
Solomon, Dec.18,1758-May 12, 1759
Solomon, Jan. or Feb. 1760-1810
Aurel or Annette, March 10, 1761-July 17,1762
Seth, Bap.March 12,1733;died Nov.15,1764

SAMUEL MEERS, 1757-1811
Married Margarita...
Children
Jane:;;1797 ?
Phebe , ?
Samuel, 1798-1865
Stephen. 1802-1880

Will of Robert Meers

I Robert Meeres, of Boston being aged, Appoint this to be my last Will and Testament. After my funeral charges, I give unto my wife Elizabeth Meeres, my whole estate, till the day of her death, to bee soly at her disposell, and if need require to sell any part thereof to supply her necessityand after her decease to be disposed of as follows: I have bequeathed to my son John, who is deceased, for for himself and his heirs forever his Estate before his decease, and what I have both given and lent unto my sonn, I bequeath to my grandchild, John Meeres, above mentioned, a Chest of Drawers, which Chest of Drawers is to remain in the hands of my Samuell Meers, or his till the day of my said Grandchild's marriage. And if my said Grandchild should dye before hee come to bee married, then the said Samuell is to have the said hest of Drawers. To my aboue said Grandchild, to be paid at his marraige, 40s in money and the said moneys to be paid by my two sonns, Samuell and James Meeres.

To my sonn Samuell Meers, the house which I now dwell in, & halfe the orchard, & halfe the piece of Ground aboue the Orchard, & the way that goes into the Orchard, which is the south End, the house adjoyning the grounds of the late EsqGover Endicott, also vnto my sonn Samuell, that halfe of the hither Pasture that joynes to Mr. Richard Parker, Pasture lying between Mr. Parker & Goodman Hawkins, and the highway on the west side,and to haue of that pasture that lyeth between Mr. Tarne, late of Boston, deceased, &Goodman Bates, & Mr. James Johnson, & the highway & the aboue Pasture to bee Equally divided between my two sonns, Samuell & James, so that Each of them shall haue his Land butt to the highway Proportionably, soe that one may haue as much of his Land butt to the highway as the other.

I give to my sonn James Meeres, my other dwelling house, that is within my yard, which House fronts towards the late Esq Gou, John Endicott, with one facing the land of Mr. Lynes, the other End to the Orchard. I give to my sonn James Meeres the one halfe of my Orchard next to his house, & halfe the land aboue the Orchard, and that halfe of the hither Pasture that lyes next to the great gate, going into the fields, with halfe the further pasture and further the well that is now in the said yard, I bequeath it to them both Samuell & James to bec as much use full to one as to the other. I bequeath to my Sonn James, a highway into the orchard at the northwest End of the House I now dwell in. I give unto my Sonn Samuell Meers, his first born Child, & to my sonn James Meers, his first borne, 40s.apiece to bee paid them out of my estate at the day of their marriage.

After my wife is deceased all the rest of my Estate to be Equally diued between my two sonns, Samuell and James Meers.

I appoint my beloved wife my sole Executrix of this my last Will and

Will of Stephen Mears

In the name of God, Amen. I, Stephen Mears of the town of Augusta in the County of Richmond, and State of Georgia, merchant, being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory, (Blessed be God for the Same) do make and publish this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following, that is to say, first, I give to Mrs. Anne Wilkinson widow, for the great esteem and regard I have for her, and also for the great trouble I have given her in my last illness, five hundred pounds sterling, to be paid her within six months after my decease, in specie, or the value thereof at the appraisement of any part of my property to be at her option; also I give her one black satten sack and petticoat which were my late wife's.---I also give Miss Sarah Wilkinson daughter of the said Anne a sute of Lelock Luttestring which were my wifes---My will and meaning is that my Executor hereafter named do out of my estate educate my Grandson Stephen Meers Son to Solomon--and my further will and meaning is that the reaminder of my estate both real and personal, after payment of my just debts, and not hereby disposed of, should be divided, Share and Share alike, between my two Sons, Solomon and Samuel. And I do hereby make and appoint my Son Samuel Executor of this my last Will and Testament empowering my Said Executor to sell and dispose the whole or part of my real estate for the payment of my debts and legacies hereby bequeathed. And lastly I do hereby revoke all former and other wills by me made and declare this only to be my last will and Teastament---In Witness whereof I the said Stephen Meers have hereunto set my hand and Seal the ninth day of September in the year of our Lord one Thousand and Seven hundred and Eightynine and of the Independence of the United States of America the Fourteenth---

Stephen Meers

Signed, Sealed published and declared by the
Said Stephen Meers the Testator---in the presence of
us, who have subscribed our named as witnesses
thereunto, in the presence and at the request of
the Said Testator----

E. Wambersie
Anthony Poullain
Nilor Sullivan
Will Barry

Probated October 2, 1789 in Wilkes County

Will of Robert Meers

Testament. I doe also make my beloued brother James Johnson and Mr. Thomas Wilder, Ouerseers of this mt last Will.

20th Feb. 1666

Robert his X mark Meers

Signed and sealed in the presence of
Vs:

Samuel Keyes
John Williams

Symon Willard
&
Eliazer Lusher,Esq.
Recorder

Deposed Sept.10,1667

* The signature apparently was his own. It seems that the form was used, even though the maker of the will wrote it himself. Robert Meeres could read and write and keep accounts of his business.

his X mark

(1)

Records of Meers Family

ROBERT MEARES
Son of
Born at England about 1592
(age 43 in 1635)
Died at Boston, Mass., in summer or fall of 1666-7
(Will adted Feb. 20,1666; probated in Boston, Mass. September 10, 1667)
Married at England
Elizabeth Johnson, sister of Captain Johnson of Boston, Mass.
Born at England about 1602-3
("Age 30 in 1635" "Age about 68 in 1670")
Died at
(She was alive July 24, 1672, when she signed a deed in Boston, but probably died there before May 4, 1674, when her son Samuel sold some property he had inherited from his father.)

Children
Samuel, born in England about 1629-32 (Died soon after arrival
John, born in England, March 1635 in Boston)
m. Mary (Mercy)
Steven, born in Boston; baptized Dec. 31,1637
died unmarried Dec. 10, 1661
Samuel, born June 7, 1641
m. Mary Stace, or Stacy
James, born March 9, 1644
m. Elizabeth Mellows

James Meares (Meers)
Son of Robert and Elizabeth (Johnson)Meares
born at Boston, Mass. .....March 9, 1644 (VR)
baptized at First Church, Boston.....March 31, 1644(Ch. Rec.)
died at Boston,Mass. (Sewell's Diary).....Oct. 6, 1712
estate administered at Boston,Mass., Dec. 22, 1741

Married
Elizabeth Mellows
born at Charlestown, Mass..... .....March 5, 1643-4(Jacobus)
died at...(alive July 21,1713).....
daughter of Edward and Hannah (Smith) Mellows of Charlestown, Mass.
Children, born at Boston, Mass. (VR)
James, born Dec. 21, 1668
Elizabeth, born Aug. 1,1668;baptized in the 3rd, or Old South Church, Nov. 18, 1684 and died unmarried Feb.17, 1694-5
Edward, born March 2, 1669-70; baptized in Old South Church, Nov. 18, 1684
Robert, (Captain), born Jan. 29, 1671 ; died in London, England. Unmarried. Estate administered on Dec. 15, 1722, in Boston
Hannah, born Jan. 28, 1676. Died soon after.
Hannah, born June 2, 1678. Not baptized with other children in 1684, so probably died young.
John, born May 12, 1680. Married 1st-Ann; 2nd,Sarah Griggs
Nathaniel, born Oct. 7, 1682 Died young.
Nathaniel, born Sept. 26, 1683; baptized in Old South Church Nov. 18, 1684.
Mary, baptized Nov. 29, 1688. Married Captain John Bulkley
Stephen, born May 15, 1690

James Meers was a feltmaker and hatter, and in later years an inn-holder in Boston. Although the name is variously spelled Meres, Mears, Meares, this James is seldom spelled any way but Meers.

3

STEPHEN MEARS (MEERS)
Son of James and Elizabeth (Mellows) Meers
Born at Boston, Mass.. ....May 15, 1690 (VR)
Baptized at Old South Church, Boston, May 25, 1690-1 (Ch. Rec.)
Died.....
Married.....
Children
Stephen born about 1729-33
?
?

Stephen Meares, John Bulkley, and Eliezer Moody withnessed sale of land of James Meares of Boston, feltmaker, whose wife Elizabeth released her dower rights. (Suffolk Deeds, 26:118) Dated Feb. 22, 1711-2.

"Stephen Meares of Bridgewater, 1722. Sentinel in Captain Edmond Ward's Company, 31 July--30 Nov. 1722 (Mass. Archives, 91:74)

STEPHEN MEARS (MEERS)

Born at.....about 1729-33
Died at Augusta, Richmond Co., Georgia (Gazette) about Oct.1,1789) (Gazette); buried at.....: will dated Sept. 9, 1789, Wilkes Co. Georgia.

Married...
1st. Lois....
Born-- -- -
Died, Dec. 10, 1764 (Stiles)(South Windsor Old Cemetery Rec.
Daughter of..... Gay MSS.V11:112.Conn.Hist. Soc.
Children born at East Windsor, Conn.
Samuel, born Aug. (?) 1755; died Sept. 10, (26,EWCR) 1755, aged 13 days
Samuel, born spring of 1757(?); died about 1811 in Georgia. Married Margarita (?)
Solomon, born about Dec. 18, 1758; died May12, 1759, aged 4 mos. 25 days.
Solomon, born Jan.or Feb. 1760. Died in Georgia 1810 aged 50 years. Married Sally Pagget of New Haven, June 22, 1782 (Early Conn. Marrss. p. 27
Aurel (Annette), born about March 10, 1761. Died July 17,1762, aged 16mos,7 days
Seth, baptized March 12,1763; died Nov. 15 (5), 1764, age 20 mos. 2 days

Married 2nd.
At Wethersfield (~~Watherstield~~) Conn. (ECM) Jan. 16, 1766
(Mrs.) Lydia Welles, born.....;died at East Windsor, Conn, Feb. 25, 1767 (EWCR)
Daughter of John Francis of Wethersfield and Eunice Dickinson (Francis, NGSQ)
No children known

Married 3rd.
At Wethersfield, Conn., Dec .23,1767 (ECM) Mrs. Sarah Ridgeway Bradford, widow of John Bradford of Boston . Born at Boston, Suffolk Co. Mass. June 3, 1757. Died before Oct.1, 1789 . Daughter of Samuel and Naomi Ridgeway of Boston. No children known . Naomi Reynolds)
Stephen Mears named executor of her will.

Stephen Mears lived in East Windsor, Conn. and Hartford, Conn.
Was living in Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 7, 1784

STEPHEN MEERS (1729-1789)

South Windsor Old Cemetery Records (Gay Mss. V11:112, Conn. Hist.So
"Lois, wife of Stephen Mears, 10Dec.1764"
"Solomon, son of Stephen and Lois Mears, 12 May, 1759"
"Samuel, 10 Sept. 1755" (two)
"Seth, 5 Nov. 1764"
"Aurel, 17 July 1762"

References
East Windsor Church Records (Baptisms)
East Windsor Obituaries (Deaths)
New Eng. Hist and Gen. Register, vol.66, p. 333-4
Genealogies and bigraphies of Ancient Wethersfield, Vol2,p.501
Early Conn. Marriages, Vol.3,pp.12-13
Hartford Conn. Land Records
Conn. Archives at Conn. State Library
Jacobus Families of Ancient New Haven,Conn., p.482
Will of Stephen Meers, Merchant of Augusta, Richmond Co., Ga.
D A R Hist. Colls. Georgia Vol. 2
Gazette, State of Georgia, Oct.1, 1789
National Genealogical Society Quarterly, March 1944,pp.22-25

Stephen Meers appears in Windsor, Conn. in 1753 with a lot of money for those days. Is married at that time to Lois..... On Dec. 24, 1753 he paid L400 pounds for land in Windsor. On June 11, 1754 he bought more land for L300. Oct.22, 1755, he sold some land for L500 and March 15, 1757 he sold some more land for L400. He paid cash and took no mortgages.

In April, 1757, he signed a petition for a separation of church societies, which later became the North Bolton, Conn., Society.

May 17, 1759 he bought land in Hartford, Conn. and in May, 1760 he signed petition for dividing East Windsor from Windsor. September 27, 1760 he bought land in Torrington, Conn., and in Nov. 1760 sold land in Hartford. April 28, 1761 he again bought land in Hartford and in Aug. 1761, he sold land there. April 14, 1763 there was another land transaction in Hartford. In all these transactions he definitely identified himself as "Stephen Mears of "indsor, Conn."

After the Revolution, Stephen Mears, "sometime of Hartford" removed with his family to Philadelphia, pa., where the name became "Meers". (STiles Eneas. and Biogs. of Ancient Windsor, vol. 2, p.501.)

Sept. 7, 1784, Stephen Meers of Philadelphia, Merchant, for L800 sold land in Hartford formerly purchased of the heirs of Samuel Flagg, with a dwelling thereon, etc. (Deeds at the municipal bldg., Hartford, 16:43. All the Hartford deeds are to be found at the Municipal Building.)

5 2

Stephen Meers , 1729-1789
Many similar transactions in Connecticut and many in Georgia.
He also managed a store in Hartford owned by relative of his third wife.

1937048

From Fannie Garrison to Thomas and Samuel Meers

Fernandino, Florida, Feb. 26, 1895

Dear Brothers:

You will no doubt be surprised to hear that I am in Florida. For years I have had an irresistible desire to visit the land of our forefathers, and thought I had better satisfy that desire while I had the health and the moneyto do so, fearing that perhaps after death my uneasy spirit might take a notion to wander for an indefinite period around the Tiger Islands.....Since I arrived in Florida I have visited the Tiger Islands twice. There is no house on the part that Swann holds but the Government has placed beacon lights along the shoreand are about to remove the quarantine farther down the river on the very end of the island. It is right opposite Fernandino and has a fine beach but not much dry ground. The 2nd time I visited the part Chauncey Williams holds. It was a long row in a small boat. The house they live in is nothing more than a shanty but the man has an orange grove and plants vegetables and he says anything will grow on it the soil is so rich.

I wandered around feeling very sad and thought, can it be possible that our Grandparents ever lived in this desolate place..... Saturday, 23rd, I started for St. Marys on the Georgia side. Sunday I visited the old graveyard that has been there ever since St. Marys was first settled. I believe our grandparents are buried in that old graveyard but there is no stone to mark their graves. But there is an old brick enclosure that no one knows who is buried in.

I find by the records that our Grandfather must have been one of the wealthy merchants of St. Marys but .....he failed in business and gave all he owned to his creditors, making assignment of all his lands and his personal effects, even his household furniture. He owned half the waterfront. I stood on the very lots that belonged to him and looked on the opposite shore where his 200 head of cattle roamed, where 500 acre of land belonged to him. It is now called Rose Bluff, is on the Florida side , but it is lost to us. It was granted over again and Swann owns the grant.

I found it impossible to gain much information about our family. All the old people who knew them are dead. Mr. Swann said that an old lady who lived with him knew Aunt Jane and went to her funeral and she was buried in St. Marys. .....

St. Marys is just the same as it was when Father was here.....no railroad stops there, no business. When Grandfather lived, it was a great business place.....cotton, rice, lumber and other things constantly shipped to and from this part, and Grandfather was one of her largest. It made me sad to think of him. I think his trouble hastened his death .....What an honorable man he was. This assignment was in 1808 and he was dead in 1811.....I am glad I had the pleasure I had of seeing our Father's birthplace and where our Grandparents lived and died.....

Sincerely your sister,

Fannie Garrison

Father's sister

STEPHEN MEERS, 1802-1860
Married Jerusha Jermain
Children born in New York
Margaret Jerusha, 1828-
James, 1835----1897
Richard Died in infancy
Stephen
Mary Elizabeth 1843-1935
Phebe Ann,
Emma Lucretia Died in infancy
Frances Jane, ---1903
Married Rachel Wallace
Children
Thomas Wallace, 1850-1934
Samuel, 1851; died in infancy
Samuel, 1852---19
Gertrude Eunice, 1855-1857-8
Lavinia, 1857-1858-9

THOMAS WALLACE MEERS, 1850-1935
Married Ida Belle Kindig, 1860-1917
Children, born in Centerville, Iowa
Gertrude Eunice, 1880-
Mary Edith, 1883- M. I.B.Rohrer
Carrie Margaret, 1886-1934 M. O.C.Zook
Clara Louise, 1889-
Samuel Farragut, 1891- M. Margaret Drach

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